

SHA DOW MAN[®]

ANDY DIGGLE
STEPHEN SEGOVIA
ULISES ARREDOLA

#1



28

V
VALIANT

SHA DOW MAN[®]

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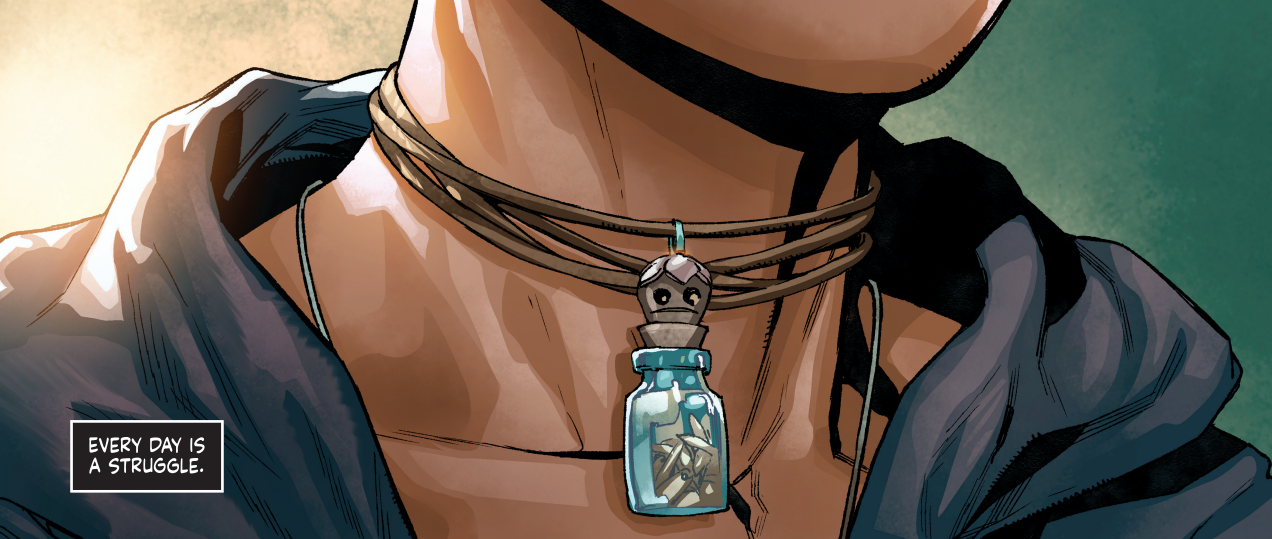
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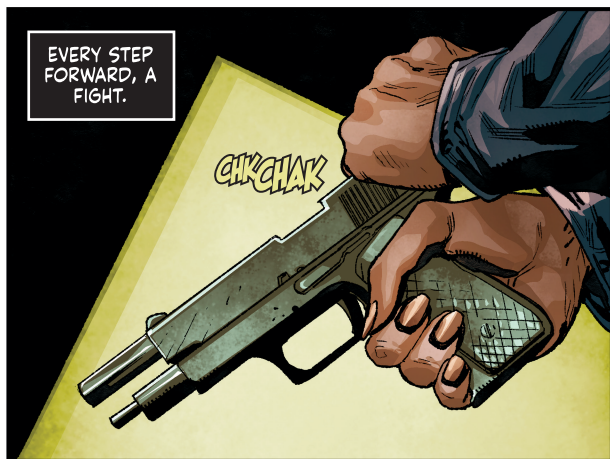
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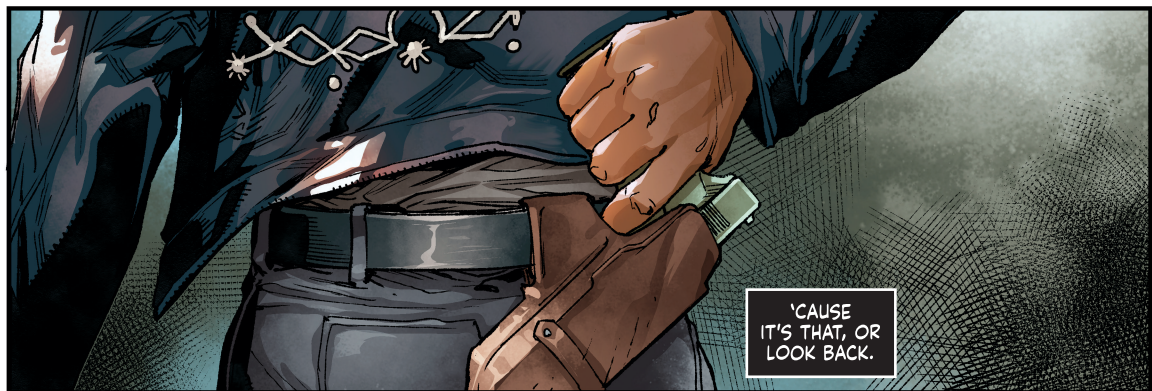
EVERY DAY IS
A STRUGGLE.



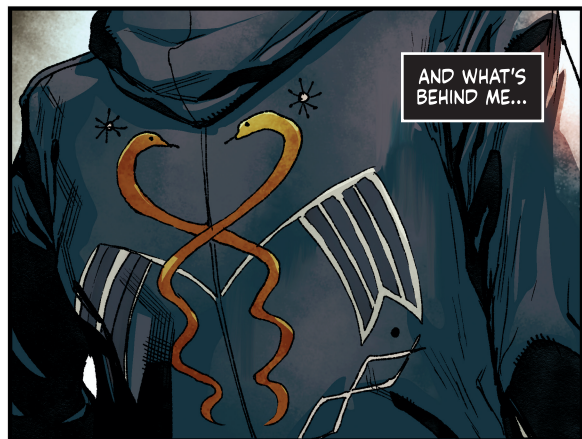
EVERY STEP
FORWARD, A
FIGHT.



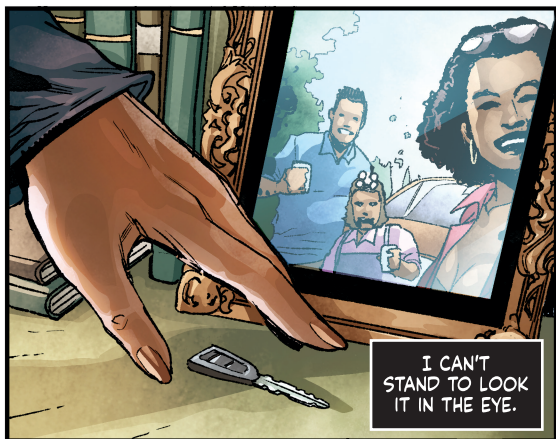
BUT I
TAKE THAT
STEP. AND
THE NEXT.



'CAUSE
IT'S THAT, OR
LOOK BACK.



AND WHAT'S
BEHIND ME...

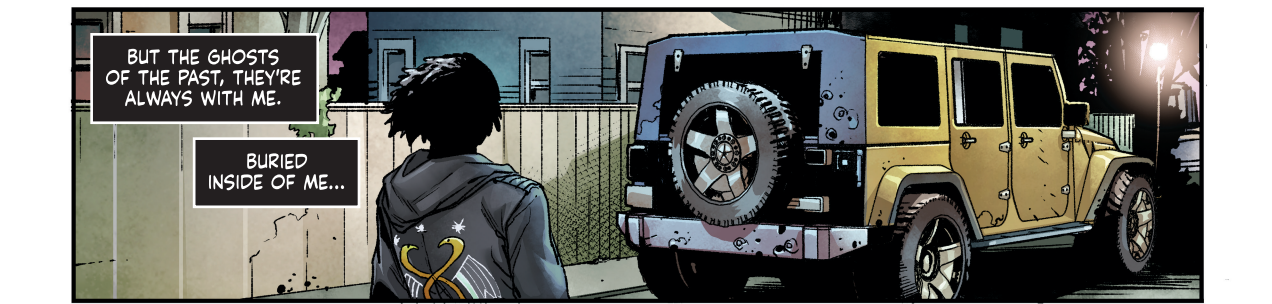


I CAN'T
STAND TO LOOK
IT IN THE EYE.



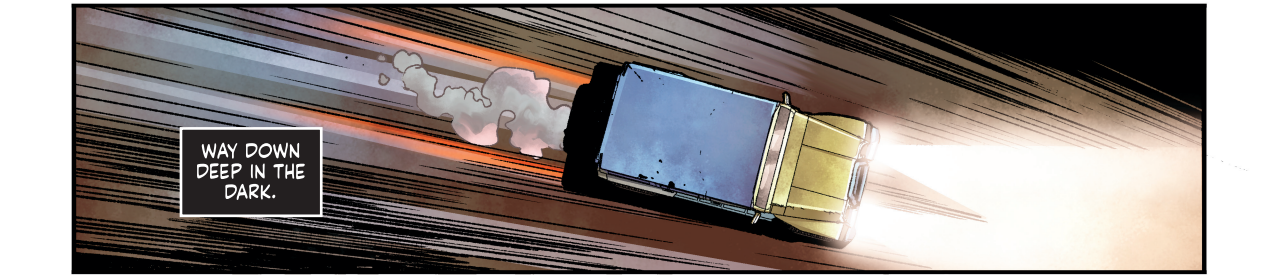
I TOLD MYSELF
I COULD START
OVER. GO BACK TO
A NORMAL LIFE.

WALK AWAY
FROM THE GUILT
AND PAIN.



BUT THE GHOSTS
OF THE PAST, THEY'RE
ALWAYS WITH ME.

BURIED
INSIDE OF ME...

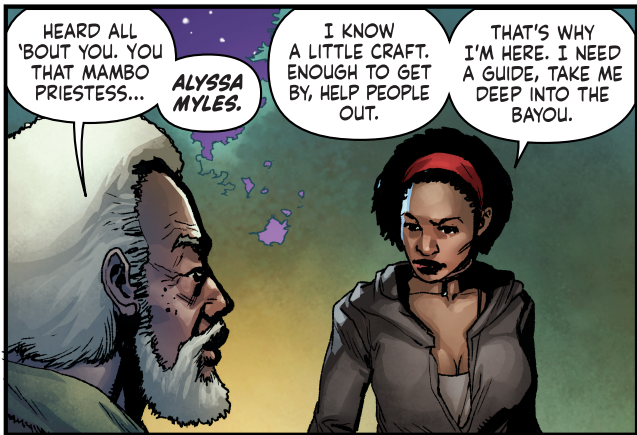


WAY DOWN
DEEP IN THE
DARK.



THAT A
GRIS-GRIS I
SEE AROUND YOUR
NECK, PRETTY
LADY?

FIGURE
I NEED ALL
THE HELP I
CAN GET.



HEARD ALL
'BOUT YOU. YOU
THAT MAMBO
PRIESTESS...

ALYSSA
MYLES.

I KNOW
A LITTLE CRAFT.
ENOUGH TO GET
BY, HELP PEOPLE
OUT.

THAT'S WHY
I'M HERE. I NEED
A GUIDE, TAKE ME
DEEP INTO THE
BAYOU.



YOU
PLAYING WITH
FIRE, GIRL.

DANGEROUS
THING THEY
SAY, A LITTLE
KNOWLEDGE.

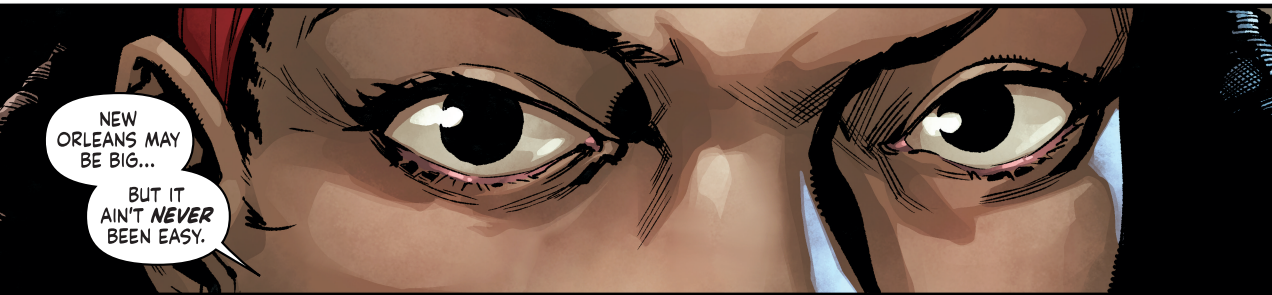


YOU WANT
MY MONEY
OR WE DONE
TALKING?



EASE
UP, I'LL TAKE
YOU. NOBODY
KNOWS THESE
WATERS LIKE OL'
ISIAH...

BEST
DAMN GUIDE IN
THE BIG EASY,
THAT'S ME!



NEW
ORLEANS MAY
BE BIG...

BUT IT
AIN'T **NEVER**
BEEN EASY.



SO WHAT BRINGS A CITY GIRL WAY OUT HERE IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT WITH A MAP SHE DREW HERSELF...?

YOU HEARD OF **CARTOMANCY**? MAP MAGIC.



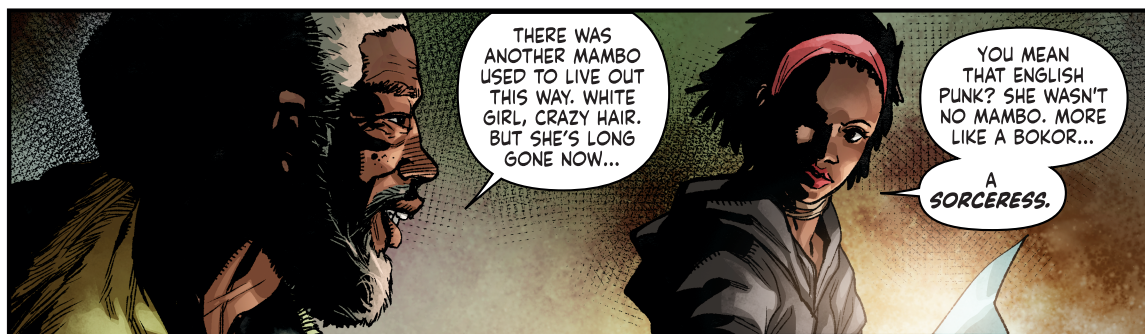
SEE, THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE WATER. BEEN MAKING KIDS SICK, ACT CRAZY.

STATE, WATER COMPANY WON'T DO A DAMN THING...



SO I LOOKED INTO IT. DREW A VÈVÈ, ASKED THE RIGHT QUESTIONS.

TURNS OUT, THE WATER'S **CURSED**. AND THE SOURCE--IT'S OUT HERE IN THE **BAYOU**.



THERE WAS ANOTHER MAMBO USED TO LIVE OUT THIS WAY. WHITE GIRL, CRAZY HAIR. BUT SHE'S LONG GONE NOW...

YOU MEAN THAT ENGLISH PUNK? SHE WASN'T NO MAMBO. MORE LIKE A BOKOR...

A **SORCERESS**.



A TRUE MAMBO **RESPECTS** THE MYSTERIES. **SERVES** THEM.

NOT THE OTHER WAY ROUND.



WE GOTTA
WALK FROM
HERE.

WATCH YOUR
STEP NOW--OR
THE SWAMP, IT'LL
PULL YOU RIGHT
DOWN!

TERRIFIC.



FOG'S
COMING UP. WE
GOOD...?

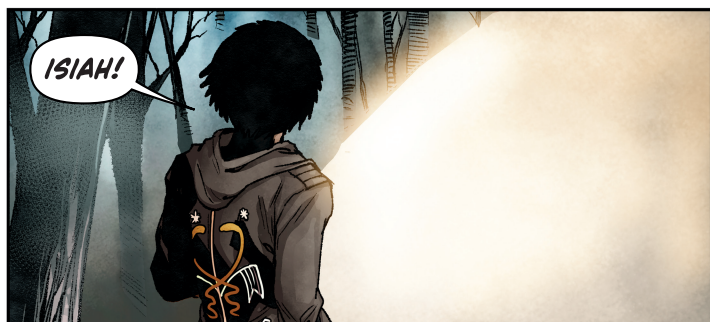
I KNOW
THE PATH...

LONG AS YOU
STAY CLOSE TO OL'
ISIAH, AIN'T NOTHIN'
TO FEAR...

HEH
HEH!



EASY FOR
YOU TO SAY
WHEN--



ISIAH!

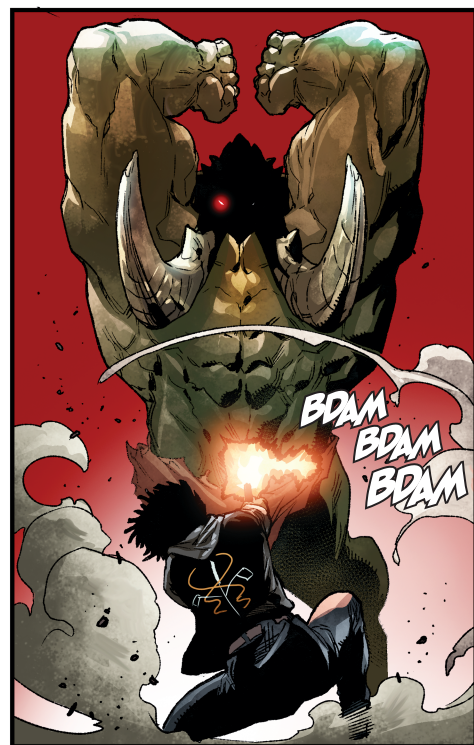


SON
OF A...



KESSH







FEELS LIKE
FOREVER I'VE
BEEN RUNNING.

TRYING TO GET
AWAY FROM THE
THINGS I DID. THE
THINGS I **SHOULD**
HAVE DONE.

HELL WITH
THIS--!

WHERE'S
THE DAMN
BOAT?

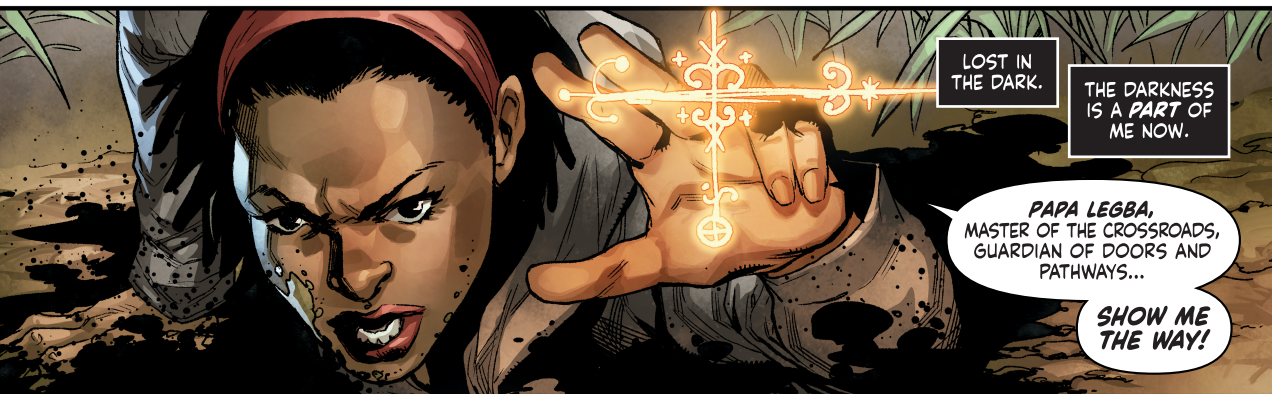


TRYING TO
GET BACK TO
THE **LIGHT**.

BUT I CAN'T.
I'M **TRAPPED--**

GAHH--!

SMART,
GIRL. REAL
SMART--!

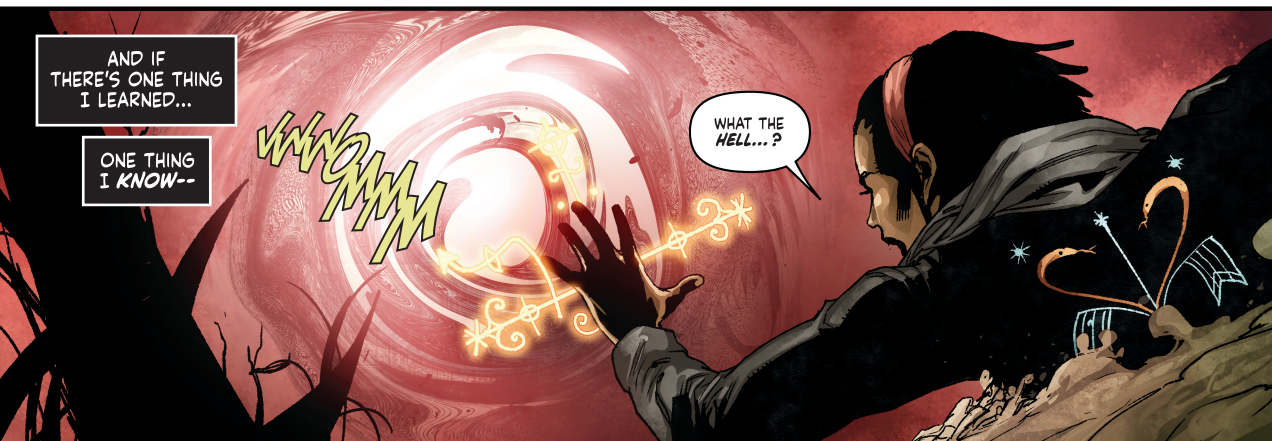


LOST IN
THE DARK.

THE DARKNESS
IS A **PART** OF
ME NOW.

PAPA LEGBA,
MASTER OF THE CROSSROADS,
GUARDIAN OF DOORS AND
PATHWAYS...

**SHOW ME
THE WAY!**



AND IF
THERE'S ONE THING
I LEARNED...

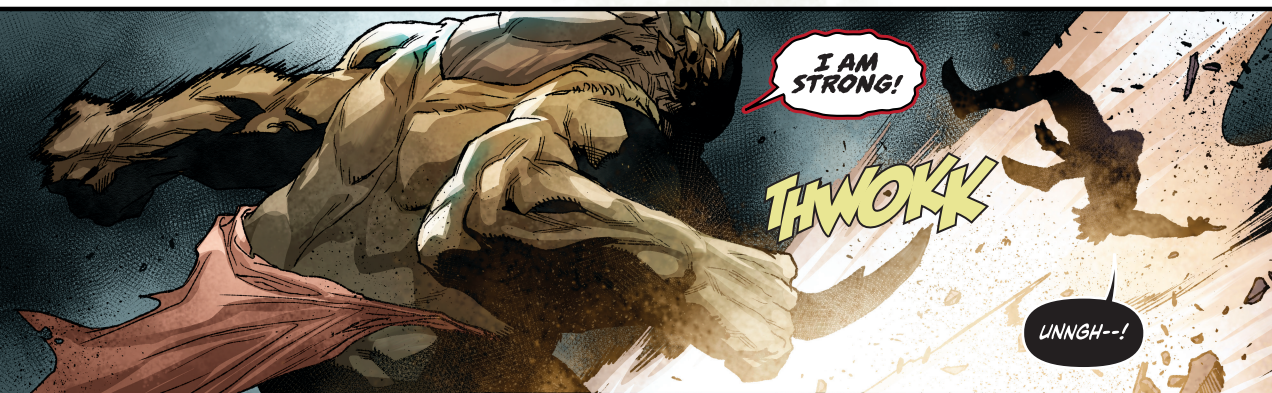
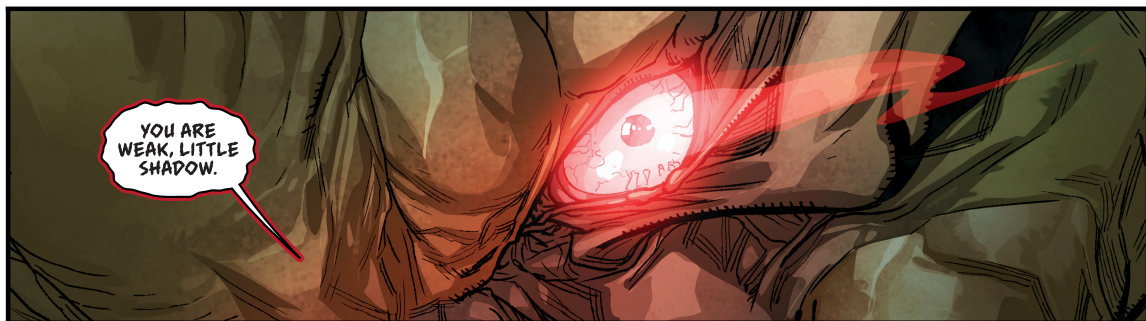
ONE THING
I **KNOW--**

WHAT THE
HELL...?



...YOU CAN'T
RUN FROM YOUR
OWN SHADOW!







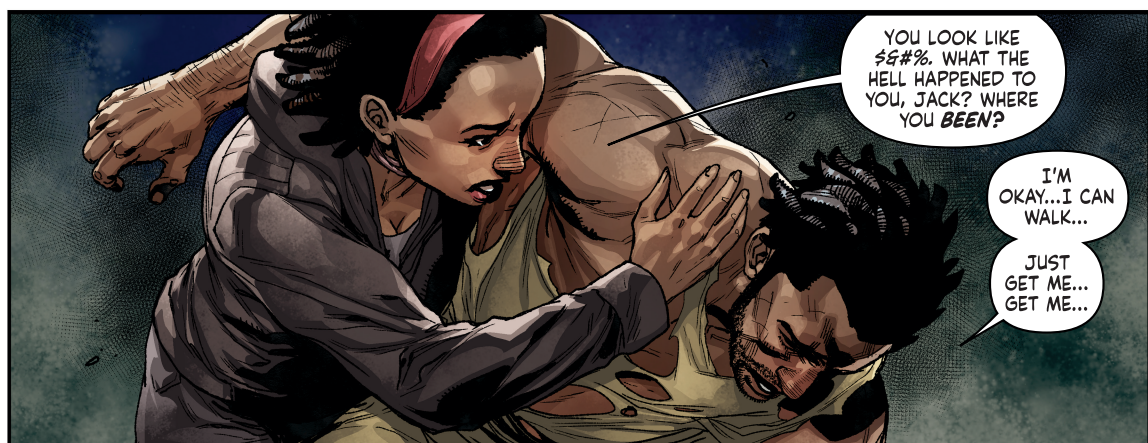


IT'S
BACKED OFF--FOR
NOW! BUT IT'LL BE
BACK. I THINK WE
RILED IT.

C'MON,
WE GOTTA
FIND THE
BOAT!

IT--
IT'S REALLY
YOU...

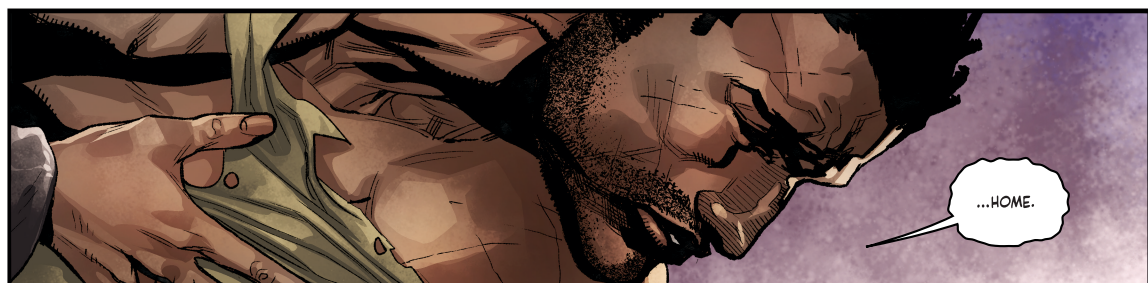
NOT
ANOTHER...
TRICK OF THE
SHADOWS...



YOU LOOK LIKE
\$\$#%. WHAT THE
HELL HAPPENED TO
YOU, JACK? WHERE
YOU *BEEN*?

I'M
OKAY...I CAN
WALK...

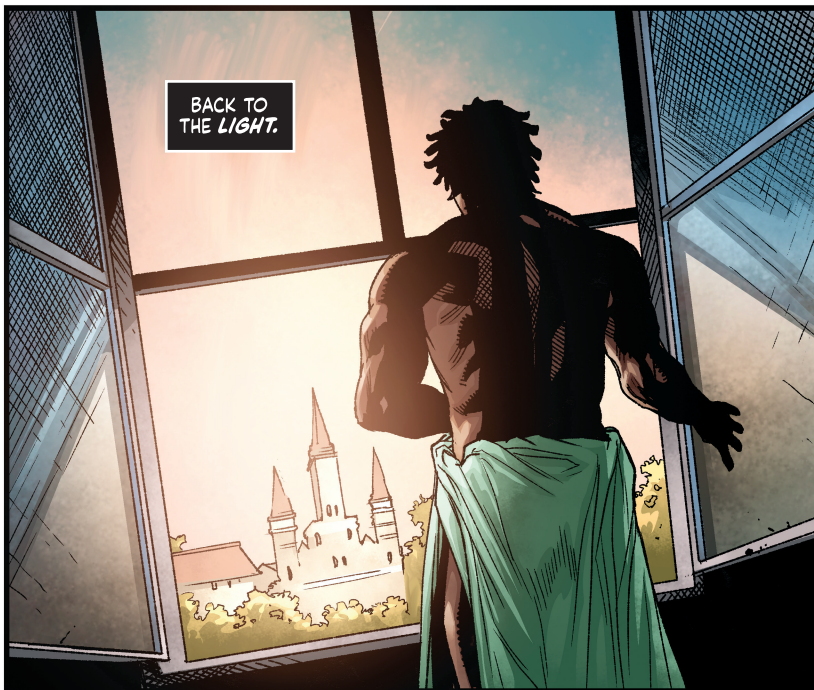
JUST
GET ME...
GET ME...



...HOME.



OH,
YOU GOTTA BE
KIDDING ME.







I'M
SORRY.

WALKING
AWAY FROM YOU
WAS THE HARDEST
THING I EVER
DID. AND THE
DUMBEST.



EVER SINCE
THE *SHADOW LOA*
BOUND ITSELF TO
ME, ALL I COULD
THINK ABOUT WAS
GETTING *FREE*
OF IT.

IT MADE
ME SO ANGRY.
JUST FILLED ME
UP WITH ITS
CRAZY, STUPID
RAGE...



"I MADE MISTAKES.
BAD ONES. GOT
BLOOD ON MY HANDS.

"I LOST HOPE.
LOST *MYSELF.*

"AND
NICODEMO
DARQUE
EXPLOITED
THAT."



"DARQUE
TURNED ME INTO
HIS PUPPET--

"THE MAGPIE.
A WEAPON TO
TERRORIZE THE
DEADSIDE.



"WHEN I FINALLY GOT FREE, ALL I
COULD THINK ABOUT WAS GETTING BACK
TO YOU. BACK TO THE ONLY GOOD THING
I EVER KNEW IN THIS LIFE.

"BUT EVERYTHING
CHANGED. THE BORDER
WAS SEALED--AND I WAS
TRAPPED THERE."



I'VE BEEN FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE. FIGHTING THE DEAD. FIGHTING THINGS I CAN'T EVEN NAME.

UNTIL YOUR VÊVE PIERCED THE DARK. THAT CONNECTION--**OUR** CONNECTION...

IT LED ME HOME. LED ME TO **YOU**.



SO YOU'RE A **KILLER** NOW.



THAT'S NOT WHO I AM. NOT WHO I AM.

I--I GOT A LOT TO ATONE FOR, I KNOW. BUT I GOTTA MAKE THINGS RIGHT.

I GOTTA.



BUT YOU'RE STILL THE **SHADOWMAN**. RIGHT? YOU'VE GOT THE **POWER** INSIDE OF YOU.

A POWER LIKE NO-ONE ELSE...



BUT I CAN'T **CONTROL** IT! ALL IT WANTS IS TO **FIGHT** AND **KILL**--!

DON'T YOU SEE? I'M NOT A HERO, I'M A **CAGE!**



I'M SO
TIRED, ALYSSA.
SO TIRED OF
FIGHTING THIS
THING INSIDE
OF ME...

AND
IT WANTS
OUT.



THEN WE
GOT OUR
WORK CUT
OUT.

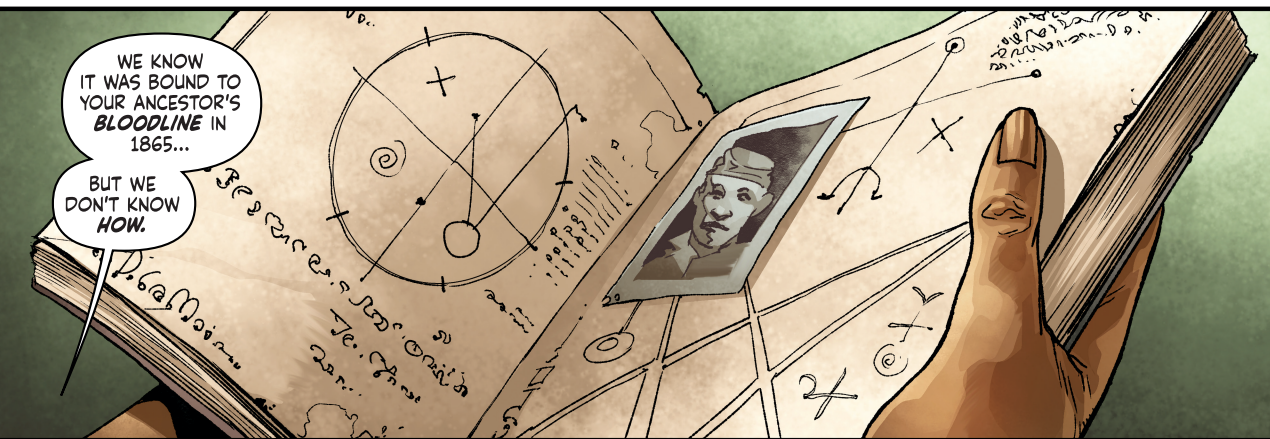
MY WHOLE
LIFE, I WAS TRAINED
TO HELP THE SHADOWMAN.
THE ONES CAME BEFORE
YOU, THEY FOUGHT THE
SHADOW TOO. AND
LOST.

ALL THAT
HISTORY. ALL THAT
LEGACY. AND WE
STILL DON'T KNOW
NEAR ENOUGH ABOUT
WHAT YOUR LOA
REALLY IS.



WE KNOW IT
WAS EXILED BY THE
VOODOO PANTHEON
A LONG, LONG TIME
AGO...

BUT WE
DON'T KNOW
WHY.



WE KNOW
IT WAS BOUND TO
YOUR ANCESTOR'S
BLOODLINE IN
1865...

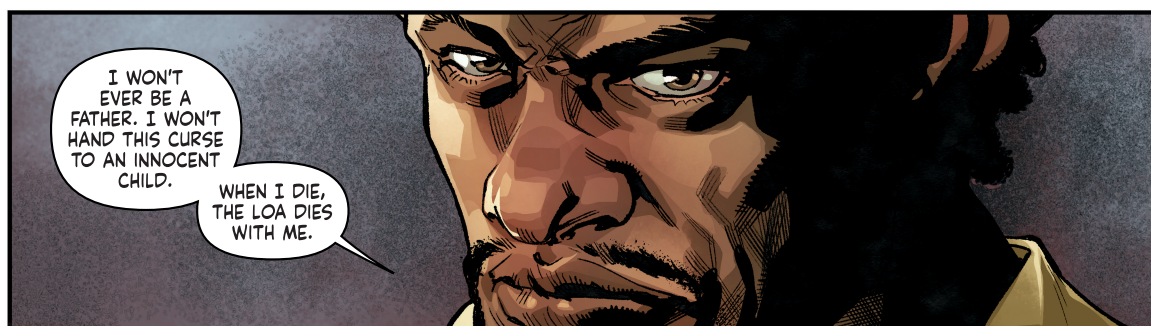
BUT WE
DON'T KNOW
HOW.



WE KNOW
YOU'RE THE **SIXTH**
SHADOWMAN--

THE **LAST**
SHADOWMAN.

...WHAT?



I WON'T
EVER BE A
FATHER. I WON'T
HAND THIS CURSE
TO AN INNOCENT
CHILD.

WHEN I DIE,
THE LOA DIES
WITH ME.



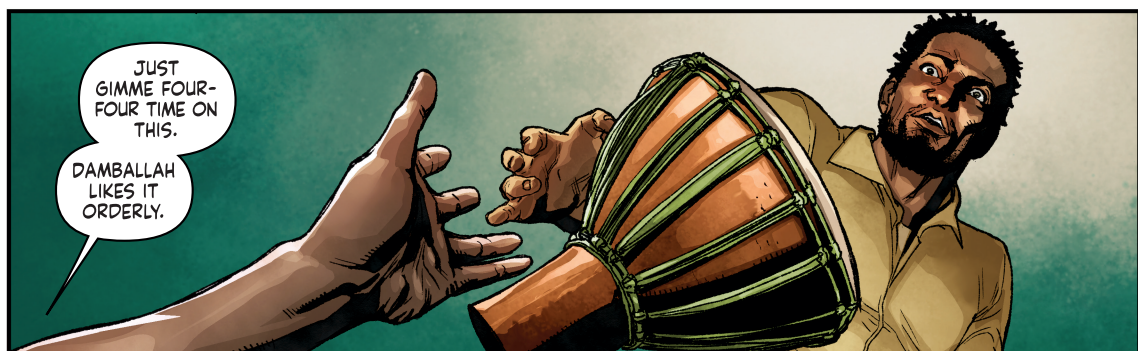
...MAYBE.

OR
MAYBE IT CUTS
LOOSE AND RUNS
WILD--WITHOUT A
HUMAN **CONSCIENCE**
TO KEEP IT IN
CHECK.

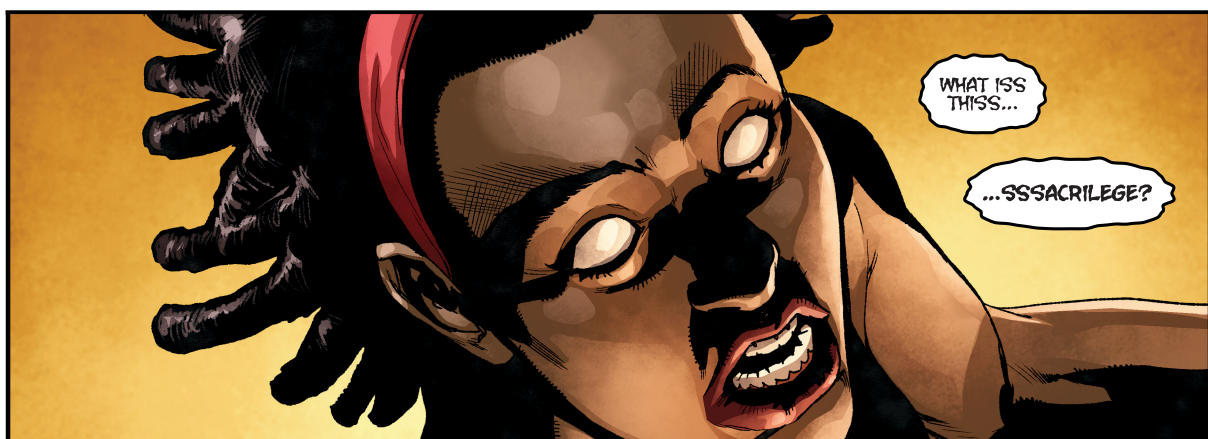


EITHER
WAY, WE NEED
ANSWERS.

AND I
KNOW RIGHT
WHERE TO
START.









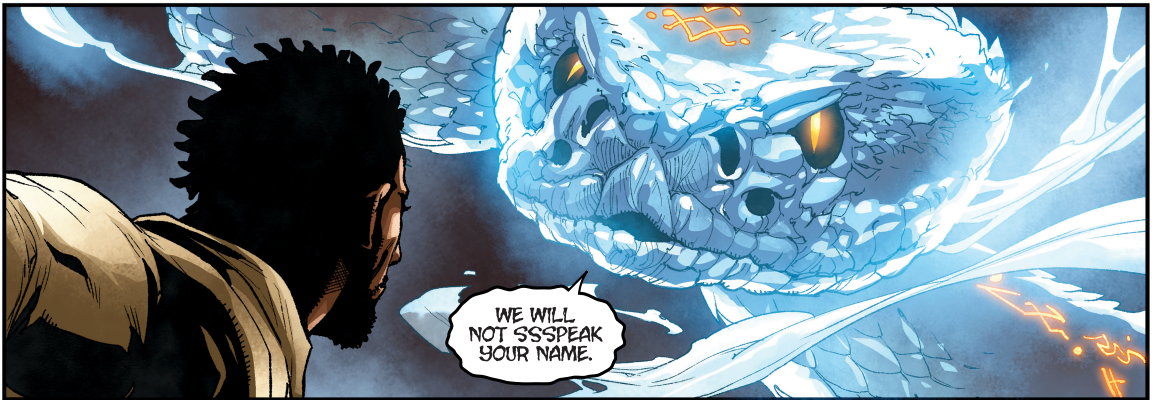
WATCH
OUT--!

DO NOT
SSSPEAK!

YOU
DEFILE THISSS
SSSANCTUARY...

UNRULY
SHADOW. YOU
ARE TABOO!

YOU HAVE
NEVER SSSERVED
THE PANTHEON. YOU
SHOW USSS NO
RESSPECT...



WE WILL
NOT SSSPEAK
YOUR NAME.



MY--MY
NAME... ?



HASSS IT
BEEN SSSO LONG
THAT YOU DO NOT
REMEMBER?
PERHAPSSS...

SSSO
MUCH THE
BETTER!





BARON
SAMEDI--!

I'LL
SAY THIS
ONCE--



LEAVE
HER ALONE!

WHY'S
THAT, JACK?
YOU WANT THE
LADY ALL TO
YOURSELF?

CAN'T
SAY I BLAME
YOU...





YOU
LISTEN UP
NOW.

DEADSIDE IS
MY PROVINCE. AIN'T
NO PLAYGROUND TO
COME AND GO AS
YOU PLEASE.

AND
THE PANTHEON DO
LOVE THEIR RULES
AND REGULATIONS,
YES THEY DO...



YOU DON'T
WANT ME IN THE
DEADSIDE, WHY'D
YOU **TRAP** ME
THERE?!



TO
TEACH YOU A
LESSON.

AND
THERE'S PLENTY
MORE LESSONS
TO COME. YOU'LL
SEE.



YOU NEED
TO TOUGHEN
UP, SON. WAR
IS COMING.

YOU
BEST BE
READY.





A comic book panel featuring a woman with dark skin and short, spiky black hair. She is wearing a grey tank top and has a look of intense shock or fear on her face, with wide eyes and an open mouth. She is holding a man by the shoulders and arms. The man has dark skin and is wearing a yellow jacket over a dark shirt. His face is partially obscured by shadows. The background is a bright green with radiating lines, suggesting a powerful energy source or explosion. A speech bubble from the woman contains the text 'JACK, NO---!'. In the bottom right corner, the words 'TO BE CONTINUED' are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

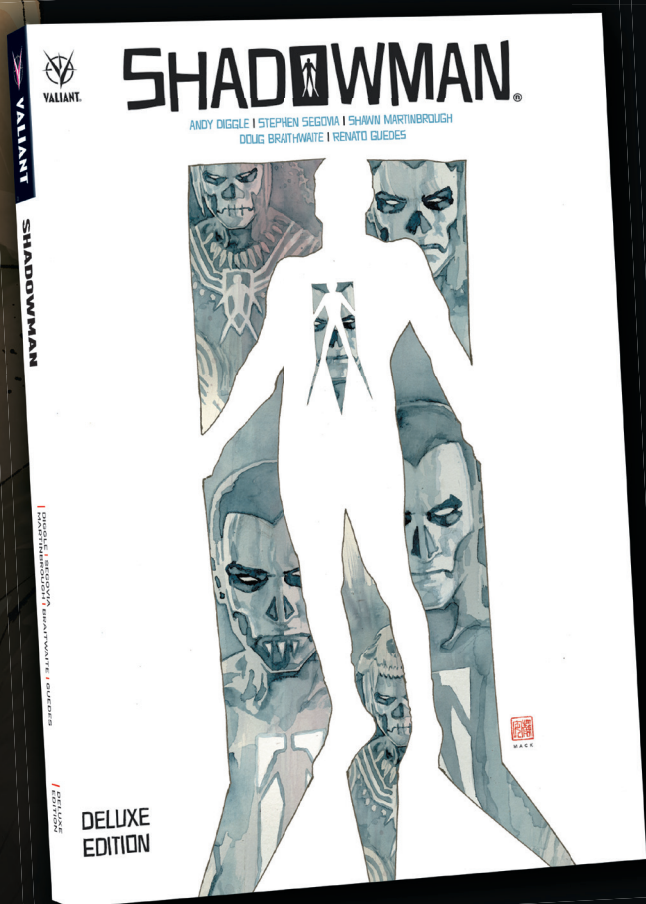
**JACK,
NO---!**

TO BE CONTINUED

A large, dark, and menacing close-up of Shadowman's face, showing his white mask with yellow eyes and a wide, toothy grin.

**"THE KIND OF
COMIC THAT YOU
SHOULD SHOW TO
NEW READERS."**

- Graphic Policy



**READ THE COMPLETE SERIES
FROM SUPERSTAR WRITER
ANDY DIGGLE (*GREEN ARROW: YEAR ONE*)
IN THIS DELUXE HARDCOVER EDITION
ON SALE APRIL 7TH**



SHADOWMAN[®]

CULLEN BUNN

JON DAVIS-HUNT



LET HIM IN

APRIL 28TH 2021



VALIANT

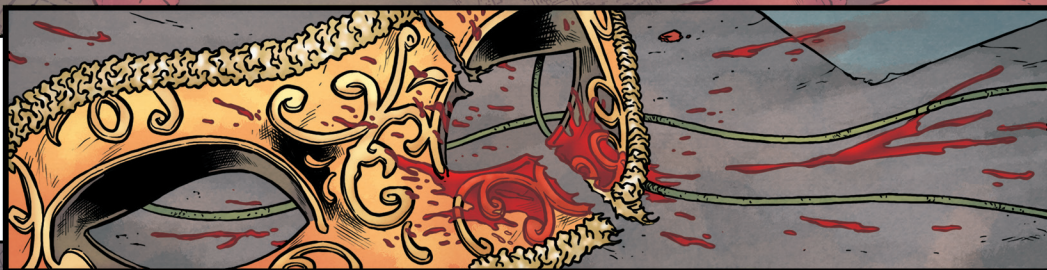
THE DEADSIDE.

THE SPACE
BETWEEN
WORLDS.

SHADOWMAN #1

CULLEN BUNN | JON DAVIS-HUNT
JORDIE BELLAIRE | CLAYTON COWLES

A BONE YARD
ECHO OF THE
LIVING REALM.



A REFLECTION
HIDDEN BEYOND
A VEIL.

A VEIL WE CAN SEE
AND HEAR, SMELL
AND TASTE, TOUCH.

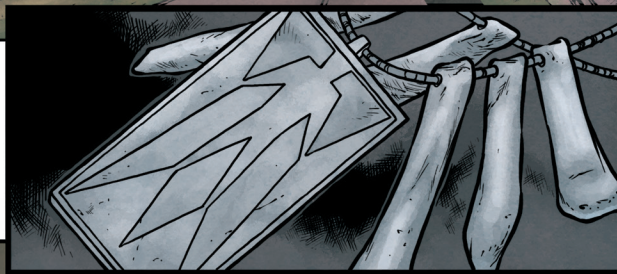
THE VEIL OF
REALITY.



DEEP DOWN IN OUR SOULS, WE ALL
KNOW THERE'S DARKNESS--*REAL*
DARKNESS--OUT THERE.

UNDER OUR BEDS...IN THE
EYES OF STRANGERS...
JUST AROUND THE CORNER.

BUT THE VEIL
PROTECTS US.



IF IT WERE TO EVER
BE REVEALED IN ALL
ITS UGLY GLORY--

--THE TRUTH
MIGHT MURDER
US.

FOR NEARLY A WEEK, ONE
OF THOSE TRUTHS HAS
BEEN SLAUGHTERING
PEOPLE ON THE STREETS
OF NEW ORLEANS.

ALWAYS
MASQUERADERS.

INNOCENTS.

AT LEAST, AS
INNOCENT AS ANYONE
GETS THESE DAYS.

WHERE
IS SHE?
WHERE ARE
YOU HIDING
HER?

THWUP

I DON'T
KNOW WHO
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT, BIG
GUY.

AND
I'M FAIRLY
SURE...

...THE PEOPLE
YOU MUTILATED
DIDN'T KNOW,
EITHER.

LIES!
SHE WAS
SUMMONED!

SUMMONED
TO THIS WORLD
OF MEAT AND
BLOOD!

YOU'RE
HIDING HER
FROM--

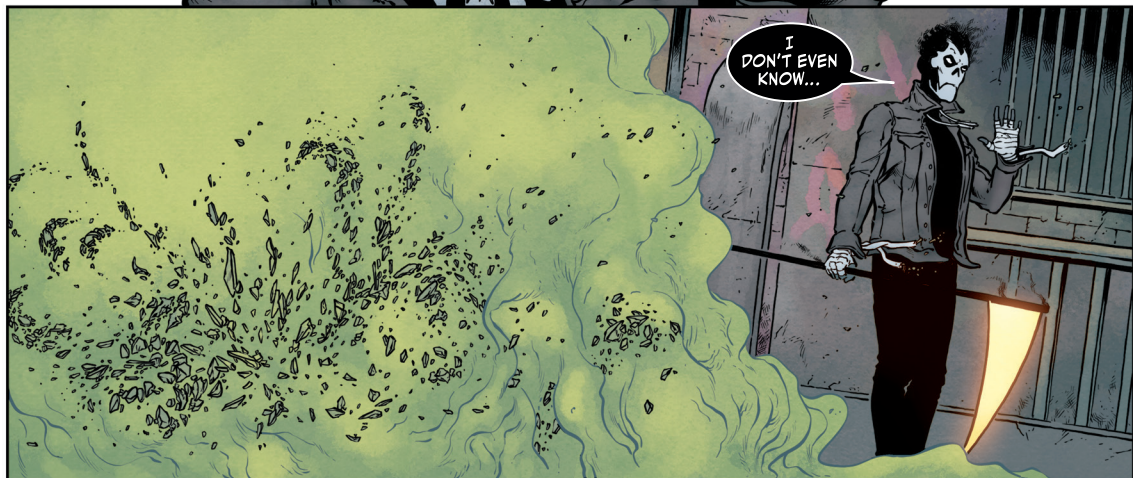
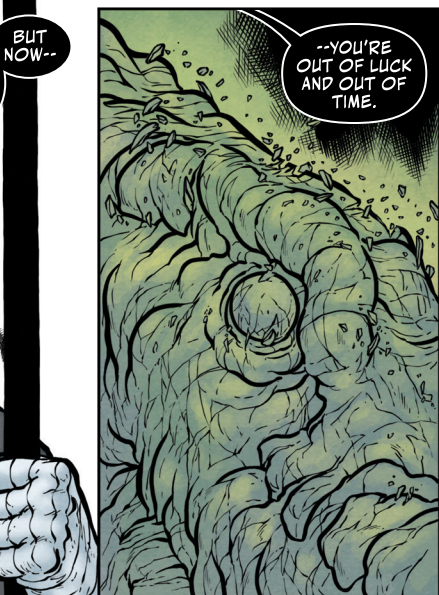
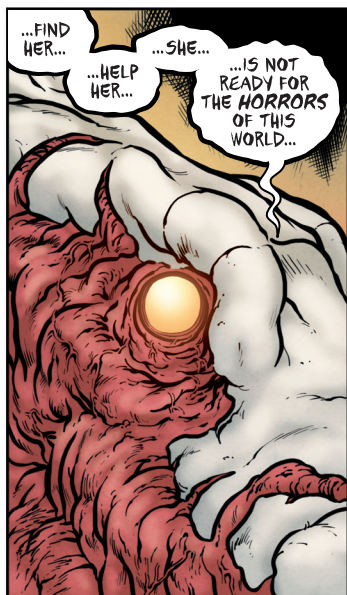
WUUUUH?

THE VEIL
BETWEEN
WORLDS IS
NOT EASILY
CROSSED.

SOMETIMES, THOUGH, A
BIT OF NASTINESS FROM
BEYOND SLIPS THROUGH.

WHEN THAT
HAPPENS, I'M SORT
OF THE
CLEANUP
CREW.

I'M
SHADOWMAN.





BARON SAMEPI--ARE YOU STILL FOLLOWING ME?

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STEER CLEAR.

COME NOW, JACK.

SOMEONE NEEDS TO KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE.

THE KING OF DEATH.

HE'S...NOT A FRIEND.



HE'S BEEN MANIFESTING TO ME LATELY, OFFERING ADVICE.

IF THAT'S YOUR GOAL... YOU'RE DOING A TERRIBLE JOB.

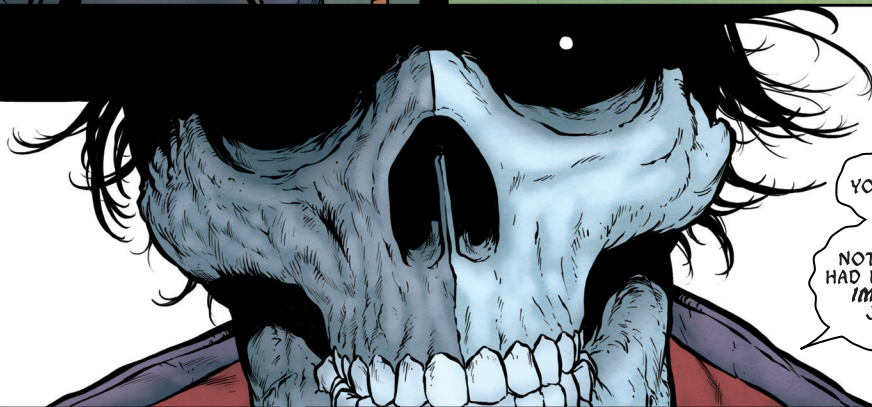
TELLING SECRETS LIKE A CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT.



YOU KNOW, I HAD A BIG TONIGHT. THE FIRST I'VE HAD IN AGES.

I WAS GOING TO PLAY THE BLUE NOTE.

SHOULD'VE KNOWN THAT WASN'T GOING TO WORK OUT.



KEEP YOUR ENEMIES CLOSE, I SUPPOSE.

WELL, YOU *STILL* HAVE A GIG.

MAYBE NOT WHAT YOU HAD IN MIND, BUT *IMPORTANT* JUST THE SAME.



UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU DON'T CARE TO KNOW WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR DEMONIC FRIEND'S BLOODY VISIT.

AND PRAY THAT WHATEVER DROVE THEM TO STAND BY YOUR SIDE...



...ISN'T AS AWFUL AS THEY THINK IT IS.

IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING USEFUL TO TELL ME, GET ON WITH IT.

DON'T GET YOUR *SHADOW* LOA TIED UP IN A KNOT, JACK.

AFTER ALL...



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Chairman

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VALIANT
COMPASS POINTS

Meet **SHADOWMAN** Artist **JON DAVIS-HUNT**

COMPASS POINTS: HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE THE ARTIST ON SHADOWMAN?

JON: Really exciting! It's cool to be back working on a horror title again, but as Shadowman blends horror AND superheroics, it's been an especially fun book to work on. Added to that is the opportunity to work on a character that has such a deep and rich heritage, especially amongst Valiant fans.

COMPASS POINTS: WHAT WAS IT LIKE DESIGNING SHADOWMAN?

JON: I had quite a clear idea of what I wanted to do with Shadowman almost immediately. I was familiar with the character's original designs and how that had subtly changed, so I knew there would be some room for a redesign, but I didn't want to take it too far because I think his essential look is really cool and iconic. I tried to focus on bringing him up to date.

I work closely with my wife when I'm designing characters (who is also a designer) so we bounced several ideas around before hitting on a look that reflected more of his musicality (as Jack) and then a more lithe, athletic, and simplified version of him as Shadowman with greater detail concentrated on his face, clothing and the way his 'shadow powers' manifest.

COMPASS POINTS: WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT ILLUSTRATING SHADOWMAN?

JON: I actually really enjoy drawing Shadowman himself now, particularly his face which can be so expressive. And I enjoy drawing his shadow powers, which are very much like a kind of smoke that I'm (attempting) to render in cross-hatching. It's also been huge fun following Shadowman around each issue as he skips from one location to the next. That gives me the opportunity to draw lots of different environments and details. It's a really fun book to work on.



COMPASS POINTS: WHAT CAN YOU TEASE ABOUT THE UPCOMING ISSUES?

JON: I am attempting to stay very tight-lipped about what's coming up because I am terrible for spoiling stuff, however, I can say that every issue feels like its own unique story and we get to explore a different sub-genre of horror with each one. But, there is a grander plot unraveling in the background...

COMPASS POINTS: IF YOU COULD GIVE ASPIRING ARTISTS ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

JON: I'd say the biggest piece of advice is don't ever give up. Or rather, don't be too hard on yourself. Improving takes time. It takes time for everyone, so don't be put off if you feel like your own art isn't up to scratch yet. When I first started drawing comics, I was absolutely terrible. It's taken me years to get to the point where I feel 'okay' about my art, and I still feel like I have a long way to go and so much to improve on. But that is what it's like for everyone.

Try and enjoy what you are doing as much as you can and remember that every moment of frustration and every setback or rejection (believe me, I have had MANY) is actually just a step forward. We all improve. We all get better.

SHADOWMAN #2 goes on sale May 26th.
Stay Valiant, everyone. ■



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